

REMARKS

1. Claim Status

Claims 1-17 and 19-27 remain pending with claims 1, 9, 15, and 20 being independent.

Applicant submits new dependent claims 28-32 for consideration. No new matter has been added.

2. Claim Objections

Applicant has amended claims 15 and 21-27 in response to the Office Action objections.

3. Rejection of Claims 1, 9, and 20 based on Wang (U.S. Pat. No. 6,546,496)

Claim 1 recites a technique that controls power consumed by multiple programmable processing engines based on network traffic. As amended, this control is provided by circuitry that determines which of multiple ranges a measure of network traffic falls within and, based on that, determining at least one of the programmable processing engines to power-up. That is, as illustrated in FIG. 4, the recited technique provides a gradation of processing capability that varies with a measure of network traffic falling within a particular range. For example, if the measure decreases, some, but not necessarily all, engines may be powered-down. While if the measure rises, some, but not necessarily all, engines may be powered-up.

The Office Action rejected claim 1 as anticipated by Wang. In particular, the Office Action identifies the upload 25 and download 23 engines as the recited set of

processing engines. In Wang, clocks to the download logic are turned off when there is no packet being downloaded (col. 2, lines 46-48). Similarly, clocks to the upload logic are turned off when there is no packet being uploaded (col. 2, lines 48-51). Instead multiple ranges of traffic that provide a gradation of the number of engines powered up or down based on a measure of network traffic, Wang describes a simple all-or-nothing on/off of the download or upload logic. More specifically, Wang does not disclose more than two ranges of a measure of network traffic used to control power consumption by programmable processing engines.

Claim 9 and 20 include similar, though not identical, limitations. For at least the reasons above, Applicant request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 9, and 20 and their corresponding dependent claims.

4. Rejection of Claim 15 based on Wang

Applicants have amended claim 15 to recite limitations based on now cancelled claim 18.

Claim 15, as amended, recites a computer program to control power consumption of individual ones of a set of programmable processing engines based on a measure of network traffic. In particular, as amended, the computer program is for execution by one of the set of programmable processing engines. In other words, one of the engines, for example, can execute a program that controls power consumed by other ones of the programmable engines.

The Office Action identified upload engine 25 and download engine 23 as the set of processing engines. However, neither of these engines 23, 25 controls the power

consumed by the other engine. In particular, whether a clock provided to the upload engine 25 is turned on or off is determined by the receive clock control 36 circuitry. Similarly, whether a clock provided to the download engine 23 is turned on or off is determined by the PCI and transmit clock control circuitry 35 (col. 4, lines 7-12). Since neither upload or download engine 23, 25 controls the power of the other engine 23, 25, Wang does not anticipate claim 15.

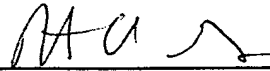
For at least the reasons above, Applicant requests withdrawal of the rejection of claim 15 and its corresponding dependent claims.

5. New Claims 28, 29, 30, and 32.

Applicant submits new claim 28 which recites determining engines to power-up only after a measure of network traffic falls in a determined range multiple times. In practice, this can make the number of powered-up engines "sticky". That is, instead of rapidly powering-up and powering-down engines with every single fluctuation in network traffic, the recited limitation can ensure that a traffic load remains in a given range for some period of time before altering the set of engines powered-up. Claims 29, 30, and 32 recite similar limitations.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 8/8/6



Robert A. Greenberg
Reg. No. 44,133

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN, LLP
12400 Wilshire Blvd.
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90025-1026
(503) 684-6200

BEST AVAILABLE COPY